

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER OF GENESEE COUNTY 2006 HONOREES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the organizations and individuals honored by the Child Advocacy Center of Genesee County for their service to the youths of our community that are the victims of child abuse. Genesee County will express its gratitude to these persons at a dinner today in Flint, Michigan.

The Child Advocacy Center of Genesee County was founded to react to allegations of child abuse. A multidisciplinary team responds by providing forensic interviews, medical evaluations, therapeutic intervention, and victim support/advocacy. Their goal is to provide these services to children and families in a safe and consistent manner.

This year the Child Advocacy Center is honoring the following Stars for Children. Four individuals will be recognized as Multi-Disciplinary Team Members: Detective Matthew Bade of the Burton Police Department, Detective James Santa of the Flint Township Police Department, Lieutenant Timothy P. Johnson of the City of Flint Police Department, Detective Diana Mills with the Mt. Morris Township Police Department.

Three persons have been nominated as the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year: Trooper Ryan Pennell with the Michigan State Police, Detective Diana Mills of the Mt. Morris Township Police Department, and Detective Matthew Bade of the Burton Police Department.

There are three nominees for the Department of Human Services Worker of the Year: Jana Carroll, Adriane Laugavitz and Marie Putnam. All three are with the Genesee County Department of Human Services High Risk Unit.

Three Genesee County Assistant Prosecutors are nominated for the Prosecutor of the Year Award. They are Gerald Snodgrass, Andrea Legendre, and Gladys Christopherson.

Receiving the Board of Directors Award is Sheryl Thompson, Director of the Genesee County Department of Human Services. Detective Sean Murphy is the recipient of the CEO Award. Nancy Walsh-Clifford of the McLaren Specialty Clinic is the Social Worker of the Year. Marie Putnam of the Genesee County Department of Human Services High Risk Unit will receive the Outstanding Service to Children Award. The Ruth Mott Foundation is being honored as Foundation of the Year. The Corporation of the Year Award is being given to Genesys Regional Medical Center. The Child Advocacy Center Award will go to McLaren Specialty Clinic, Dr. Edwin Gullekson and Dr. Mischa Pollard.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating these individuals and organizations for

their service to the most vulnerable of our society, our children. They are to be commended for their work in providing on a daily basis, a safe, nurturing environment for children victimized by abuse and neglect.

TRIBUTE TO THE HOSPITAL OF SAINT RAPHAEL AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2006

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join all administration, staff, and the New Haven community in extending my sincere congratulations to the Hospital of Saint Raphael as they mark their 100th Anniversary. The Hospital of Saint Raphael is one of New Haven's leading employers as well as one of the largest providers of healthcare in Connecticut. As we commemorate this remarkable milestone, we also celebrate all that the Hospital of Saint Raphael has brought to our community and look forward to the innovations that are sure to come in the future.

Since its founding by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth 100 years ago, the Hospital of Saint Raphael has grown from a 12-bed facility to a 511-bed community teaching hospital. The Sisters came to New Haven at the request of a group of local physicians who asked that they administer a hospital that would be open to all—all members of the medical profession and any patient, regardless of race, creed, color, or economic status. The Hospital of Saint Raphael, named for one of the few archangels recognized by many faiths and who has been long revered as a patron of the sick and healing, has built on this original vision and has become a local leader in providing quality healthcare to all members of our community. In addition to meeting the general healthcare needs of their patients, the administration and staff have developed a myriad of outreach programs designed specifically to ensure that those most in need—those who are the most underserved—are educated about healthcare and have access to the care that they need. It is that special vision that has driven the success of Saint Raphael's and how they continue to make a difference in our community.

Over the course of my career I have been proud to stand with the leaders of Saint Raphael's—those like my dear friends Sister Louise Anthony, Sister Anne Virginie, and David Benfer—to work with them to bring both local and national attention to a number of healthcare issues facing our communities. Devoting their lives to the Sisters of Charity, Sister Louise and Sister Anne brought not only their compassion, but a unique dedication to the mission of Saint Raphael Hospital. Sister Louise began her time at Saint Raphael's as

a nursing student and retired as the chief executive officer. It was under the leadership of Sister Louise that the Hospital of Saint Raphael opened the first freestanding, self-contained radiation therapy treatment center in New England as well as became the first community hospital in Connecticut to perform open-heart surgery and open a coronary care unit. Beginning her career as associate administrator, then as president of the hospital, and finally as president and chief executive officer of the Saint Raphael Healthcare System, Sister Anne provided Connecticut residents with the highest quality health care. Today their outstanding leadership is followed by David Benfer who, during his tenure of six years, has enabled Saint Raphael's to further its reputation as a clinical pioneer in cardiac, cancer, orthopedic, neurosciences, and geriatric services.

The Hospital of Saint Raphael has been a long-standing champion of efforts to bring awareness to lawmakers of the seriousness of today's healthcare crisis as well as the plight of uninsured Americans. Saint Raphael's and its staff were also one of the leading advocates for and were instrumental in the passage state legislation which protects women from the dangers of drive through mastectomies. This is an issue which I have taken an active interest in at the federal level and I am grateful for the support I have received from the Hospital, its staff and its leaders. It is this kind of advocacy, compassion, and commitment to quality healthcare that has made Saint Raphael's such a success over the last century.

It is a privilege for me to rise today to pay tribute to the invaluable contributions the Hospital of Saint Raphael has made, not only to our community, but to the healthcare community as well. I am proud to extend my sincere congratulations to this outstanding institution as they celebrate their centennial anniversary. I have no doubt that in the years to come, the Hospital of Saint Raphael will continue to be a leader in the healthcare industry and a vigilant advocate on behalf of those most in need.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE FRANCES TYDINGCO-GATEWOOD ON HER INVESTITURE AS A FEDERAL JUDGE

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Honorable Frances Marie Tydingco-Gatewood, who was nominated by the President and sworn in on October 30, 2006 to serve as a United States District Court Chief Judge for the District of Guam. One of our island's finest jurists, Judge Tydingco-Gatewood has a distinguished career of service to our island in the judicial system.

Born on January 21, 1958 on the island of Oahu, Hawaii to Daniel J. and Francesca S.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Tydingco, she returned with her family to her island of Guam as a young child and grew up in the village of Mongmong-Toto-Maite. She attended Yigo Elementary School, Barrigada Junior High, Dededo Junior High and graduated from George Washington High School in Mangilao in 1976.

Proving that hard work leads to success, Judge Tydingco-Gatewood earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Marquette University in 1980 and in 1983 achieved a personal milestone as she earned her law degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. After graduating from law school, Judge Tydingco-Gatewood began her career as a law clerk for the Presiding Judge of the Jackson County Circuit Courts in Kansas City, Missouri. In 1984, she returned home to Guam and became the first Chamorro woman to be appointed as an Assistant Attorney General. She served as an Assistant Prosecutor in Jackson County, Missouri from 1988 to 1990, and upon returning to Guam with her new experience, became Guam's first Chamorro woman appointed as Chief Prosecutor.

As Chief Prosecutor, Frances Tydingco-Gatewood exhibited the professionalism and leadership skills that would earn the respect of her peers and later appointment to the bench. She gained a reputation as a tough prosecutor and a savvy lawyer. In 1994 Governor Joseph F. Ada appointed her as a Judge in the Superior Court of Guam and in 2001 she was appointed by Governor Carl T. C. Gutierrez as an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of Guam.

She was appointed by Chief Justice F. Philip Carbullido to chair seven Guam Supreme Court subcommittees. She served as co-chairperson of the Family Violence Task Force where she has been a community leader in raising awareness about domestic violence. Justice Tydingco-Gatewood serves as co-chairperson for the Pacific Judicial Council Education Committee, which is dedicated to improving the education of all Justices, Judges and Courts staff for Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of Palau, American Samoa, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

It is Judge Tydingco-Gatewood's character and her distinguished career that led me to confidently recommend her for the federal bench at her confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on July 11, 2006. She is a leader, a role model for our young citizens, and a strong Chamorro woman who embodies the integrity and pride of the Chamorro people. On behalf of the people of Guam, it is my privilege to recognize Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood and her achievements which are an inspiration to women in Guam and throughout our nation.

As she stands alongside her husband of 25 years, Dr. Robert Gatewood and their three sons, Daniel, Michael and Stephen, she has the support of our community and the confidence of the President and the Congress. We all share her joy with her family and friends and we wish her every success as she undertakes the greatest challenge of her remarkable legal career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2006

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 514, I was unable to vote due to unforeseen circumstances. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO DR. PRASAD KOMMAREDDI

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Prasad Kommareddi as he completes his term as President of the Genesee County Medical Society. Dr. Kommareddi was honored at the annual President's Ball held on November 4th in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

After attending Guntur Medical College in India, Dr. Kommareddi completed a residency in Pediatrics at St. John's Episcopal Hospital and a residency in Internal Medicine at Hurley Medical Center. After adopting Flint as his new home, Dr. Kommareddi went on to become board certified in three areas, Internal Medicine, Addiction Medicine, and Quality Assurance and Utilization Review.

Dr. Kommareddi has been active in enhancing the relationship between physicians and third party payers. He served as a medical advisor to MCare, Blue Care Network, and served as a member of the Michigan State Medical Society Committees on Licensing and Regulation and Third Party Payer Liaison.

Recognized by his peers for his leadership, insight, and focus, Dr. Kommareddi has been elected to several positions by his fellow physicians. He is the past president of the Physicians of India Association, has served on the Genesee County Medical Society Board of Directors, and as a delegate to the Genesee County Medical Society House of Delegates, and president of the Genesee County Medical Society Affiliated Companies. He is currently a Member of the Board of Genesys PHO, Chair of its Finance Committee and serves as its Administrative Medical Director.

Prasad Kommareddi's term as the President of the Genesee County Medical Society was underscored by his excellent guidance and concentration on implementing major components of the Medical Society's Strategic and Long Range plan. He worked to increase cooperation and involvement by the members and spotlighted the need for quality and evidence based initiatives.

Compassion is an integral part of being a good medical doctor and Dr. Kommareddi has worked over the years to educate patients about maintaining healthy lifestyles. Conducting weekly group meetings to explain the repercussions of diabetes, high cholesterol, cardiovascular disease and obesity. He provides these meetings free of charge. The Michigan Surgeon General has acknowledged his motivational efforts. He is the recipient of the Michigan Steps Up Award from the State of Michigan and the Health Plus Award for 25

years of service. In addition to being an outstanding physician, Dr. Kommareddi and his wife, Jay, are the proud parents of two daughters, Malika and Madhuri.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Prasad Kommareddi for sharing his skill with his patients, his co-workers, fellow medical doctors, and the people of Michigan. The Flint area is a better place because of his commitment to improving the health of its citizens. I wish him the best as he continues to serve to community.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MEL GOLDSTEIN AS HE CELEBRATES HIS 10TH ANNIVERSARY AS A CANCER SURVIVOR

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2006

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, in each of our communities we have local celebrities and there is always one to which we feel most akin—that personality that touches your life in a way that you never expected. For me, and for residents across Connecticut, that person is Dr. Mel Goldstein, meteorologist for WTNH News Channel 8. Tonight, family, friends, colleagues, and community leaders have gathered to celebrate a very special occasion for Dr. Mel—his 10th anniversary as a cancer survivor. This is a remarkable milestone—one which I am honored to share with him.

Dr. Mel, as he is affectionately known by all Connecticut residents, has been welcomed into thousands of homes over the years. He is more than just our weatherman—he is our friend. You can only imagine how stunned we all were when Dr. Mel announced that he had been diagnosed with multiple myeloma, an incurable but treatable cancer of the plasma cell. With a strength and determination that continues to inspire all of us, Dr. Mel shared his story with the world and in the 10 years since his diagnosis has brought much needed attention to this disease, the technological advancements in treatments that are available, and about living and coping with myeloma.

In bringing his personal battle with multiple myeloma to the public, Dr. Mel brought light to this rare disease and hope to the thousands of Americans, as well as their families and loved ones, who have been diagnosed with this cancer. Driven by his determination to win this fight, Dr. Mel established the Dr. Mel Goldstein Multiple Myeloma Fund at the Yale Cancer Center. Donating all proceeds from his speaking engagements as well as those from the two editions of his book, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Weather*, in the 7 years since its establishment, the Fund has raised thousands of dollars which have been directed to ongoing research and clinical trials that target this incurable form of cancer.

As a cancer survivor myself, I have the deepest respect and admiration for Dr. Mel and his willingness to be so open about something so personal and a health concern that can be the most frightening experience of your life. In describing himself, he uses the words optimistic, positive, and persistent—I cannot think of a more fitting description. Perhaps what has been most inspiring about his 10-year battle with myeloma is that we have